

Appl. No. 09/868,793
Amdt. dated August 29, 2003
Reply to Office action of June 19, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method for
determining if ~~a mammal~~ an animal has been exposed to a
hemolysin-producing fungus comprising contacting a sample
from said ~~mammal~~ animal with labeled antibodies to
fungal hemolysin or active fragments thereof and
detecting the label to determine the presence of **antigens**
~~to~~-fungal hemolysin.

Claim 4 (original): The method according to
claim 3 wherein the label is selected from the group
consisting of enzyme, radioactive, chemiluminescent, and
fluorescent labels.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to
claim 3 wherein the fungus is selected from the group
consisting of *Stachybotrys chartarum*, *Aspergillus*
fumigatus, *Candida albicans*, and *Penicillium chrysogenum*.

Claims 6-18 (canceled)

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Claim 19 (currently amended): A method for determining if ~~a mammal~~ an animal has been exposed to a hemolysin-producing fungus comprising contacting a sample from said ~~mammal~~ animal with labeled antibodies to ~~fungus~~ a hemolysin produced by the fungus or active fragments thereof and detecting the label to determine ~~the presence of antigens to~~ if the sample contains fungal hemolysin, wherein the fungal hemolysin used to prepare the labeled antibodies is isolated by culturing a strain of fungus, removing cells and debris from the culture to recover supernatant, and isolating hemolytically active fractions of fungal hemolysin.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method according to claim 19 wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of enzyme, radioactive, chemiluminescent, and fluorescent labels.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method according to claim 19 wherein the fungus is selected from the group consisting of *Stachybotrys chartarum*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Candida albicans*, and *Penicillium chrysogenum*.

Claim 22 (new): A method for determining if a

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human/animal has been exposed to a hemolysin-producing
fungus comprising detecting the presence of hemolysin in
a sample from the human/animal.
